

Collins, Kathleen

From: Chung, Angela
Sent: Thursday, December 19, 2013 3:28 PM
To: Szelag, Matthew; Cohon, Keith
Cc: Collins, Kathleen
Subject: FW: Recent EPA Action on Tribal Water Quality Standards
Attachments: Spokane cover letter_TSD_Dec 19 2013.pdf

Meant to cc you so you were aware of this going to the WA tribes. Same message going to ID tribes (from Mary Lou) due to their work on the fish consumption survey.

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From: Chung, Angela
Sent: Thursday, December 19, 2013 3:21 PM
To: 'bcladoosby@swinomish.nsn.us'; 'bkelly@nooksack-nsn.gov'; 'carolyn@snoqualmtribe.us'; 'chairman@chehalistrie.org'; 'char.naylor@puyalluptribe.com'; 'cindy@snoqualmtribe.us'; 'cnelson@shoalwaterbay-nsn.gov'; 'cwoodward@samishtribe.nsn.us'; 'dfuller@pgst.nsn.us'; 'dlopeman@squaxin.nsn.us'; 'dtaylor@suquamish.nsn.us'; 'dwilliams@suquamish.nsn.us'; 'Frances.charles@elwha.nsn.us'; 'fsharp@quinault.org'; 'fwilshus@nwifc.org'; 'gary.passmore@colvilletribes.com'; 'gdnenema@kalispeltribe.com'; 'gmiller@skokomish.org'; 'harry@yakama.com'; 'herman.dillon@puyalluptribe.com'; 'hhals@jamestowntribe.org'; 'iyall.cynthia@nisqually-nsn.gov'; 'jbrown@stillaquamish.com'; 'jenniferw@upperskagit.com'; 'jeremyf@lummi-nsn.gov'; 'jeromys@pgst.nsn.us'; 'jgold@tulaliptribes-nsn.us'; 'jmaroney@kalispeltribe.com'; 'kmerrill@knrd.org'; 'laurenR@upperskagit.com'; 'lforsman@suquaxin.nsn.us'; 'lnelson@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov'; 'marial@hohtribe-nsn.org'; 'matt.beirne@elwha.nsn.us'; 'mcclure@yakama.com'; 'melsheldon@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov'; 'michael.finley@colvilletribes.com'; 'mike.mchenry@elwha.nsn.us'; 'njoseph@sauk-suiattle.com'; 'ograh@nooksack-nsn.gov'; 'osterman@kalispeltribe.com'; 'parker@yakama.com'; 'paulm@pgst.nsn.us'; 'prigdon@Yakama.com'; 'rallen@jamestowntribe.org'; 'smorris@sauk-suiattle.com'; 'syanity@stillaquamish.com'; 'timothyb@lummi-nsn.gov'; 'tj.greene@makah.com'; 'tmichell@swinomish.nsn.us'; 'Todd.Thorn@colvilletribes.com'; 'tomwooten@samishtribe.nsn.us'; 'tony.foster@quileutenation.org'; 'troutt.david@nisqually-nsn.gov'; 'twoodard@samishtribe.nsn.us'; 'virginia.cross@muckleshoot.nsn.us'; 'Welcker@kalispeltribe.com'; 'wiyall@cowlitz.org'
Cc: Collins, Kathleen; Soscia, Marylou; Woods, Jim; 'BJK@Spokanetribe.com'; crossley@spokanetribe.com; Eaton, Thomas; Opalski, Dan
Subject: Recent EPA Action on Tribal Water Quality Standards

Dear Tribal Leaders and Tribal Technical Staff,

Today, EPA issued its decision on the Spokane Tribe of Indian's revised water quality standards, which were submitted to EPA in 2010 for EPA's review and action consistent with the Clean Water Act. The water quality standards adopted by the Spokane Tribe apply to all waters on the Reservation.

In general, states and tribes develop water quality standards to define the water quality goals for a water body. This includes designating the uses for a water body and setting water quality criteria to protect the uses. For example, water quality criteria for human health protection identify the level of a pollutant in water that will protect a human health use, such as consuming fish. EPA recommends a methodology for calculating water quality criteria to protect human health, which includes using input parameters that estimate how much fish or drinking water a person consumes on a daily basis.

Given that there is a substantial amount of work and interest in fish consumption rates in the Northwest, particularly rates that represent tribal consumption, we thought you may be interested in EPA's action on the Spokane Tribe's revised human health criteria, which are based on a fish consumption rate (FCR) of 865 grams per day and drinking water intake (DI) of 4 liters per day. Attached is EPA's cover letter and decision document that were sent to the Spokane Tribe earlier today. In short, the EPA approved the majority of the Tribe's revised human health criteria.

EPA's review of the Spokane Tribe's FCR and DI begins on page 20 of the attached Technical Support Document. This may provide you with insight on how EPA evaluates human health criteria under the Clean Water Act generally and how, specifically, EPA evaluates criteria that are designed to protect water uses that may be particular to a given Tribal cultural practice or policy.

If you or your staff have any questions about EPA's action, please contact me at 206-553-6511 or Kathleen Collins of my staff at 206-553-2108. Thank you.

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